Vol. VIII. Numb. 74

THE OBSERVATOR.

On a Letter from a Gentleman in Northamptonſhire, *giving an Account, that the Foreſtallers and Regraters were mobb'd there: That this, with the Care taken by the Government, has fallen the Price of Corn in thoſe Parts, and fill'd the Markets. Of a By-Market ſet up at* Milton, *by ſome Farmers and Ingroſſers, to ſell Corn by Samples. Of Collections for the* Palatines, *and the Practices of the Jacobites in thoſe Parts. On the taking of* Mons.

From Wedneſday, October 12. to Saturday, October 15. 1709.

Country-m. PRAY let's talk a little now, Maſter, upon the Letter ſent you from a Country Gentleman about the exorbitant Price of Corn, mention'd in our laſt.

Obſ. With all my Heart, *Roger*; for I think the Practices of ſuch Perſons as have contributed to the raiſing of Corn ſo high, without any Neceſſity, cannot be enough expos'd. The Curſe of the Poor is upon them already, and I doubt not but the Curſe of God will ſoon follow, if Repentance and Reformation don't prevent it. Pray what does the Gentleman ſay, *Roger*?

Country-m. He gives us an Account from *Northamptonſhire*, Maſter, that what you have writ about Ingroſſers, Foreſtallers, *&c.* and the Puniſhments they are liable to by the Statute, has had a very good Effect; and that ſince the *Gazette* came down with the Repreſentation by the Juſtices of *Weſtminſter* and *Middleſex*, the Ingroſſers, Foreſtallers, Badgers, or Tranters, as they call them in thoſe Places, have not dar'd to buy at ſeveral Markets, leſt the Price of Corn ſhould fall upon their Hand. He adds, that in *Northampton* thoſe Tranters have been ſeveral Times aſſaulted by the Mob; ſo that the Magiſtrates had much ado, with all their Poſſe, to preſerve them from the Fury of the enrag'd People.

Obſ. I am ſorry, *Roger*, there ſhould be any Occaſion for Capt. *Tom*'s taking upon him to do Juſtice. He is a very honeſt Fellow, and when call'd by Madam *Neceſſity*, has many Times done *England* good Service. I remember, that with his natural Courage and good Senſe, arm'd only with Clubs, and what came to Hand, he put Tyranny, Popery, Paſſive-Obedience, and Non-Reſiſtance to Flight at the Revolution: He prov'd a great deal too hard for King *James*'s Curaſſiers, his *Iriſh* Dragoons, and other booted Apoſtles: He made his Prieſts ſcamper, with all their wooden Gods, and perform'd many other noble Atchievments, that I need not repeat to you, *Roger*: But tho he will ſwagger, and take the executive Power upon him, when Madam *Neceſſity* puts it in his Head, he's apt to exceed his Bounds, and forget himſelf; therefore I care not how little Occaſion we have for his Aſſiſtance; which makes me curious to hear how he came to make his Appearance at the Markets in *Northamptonſhire*; I am ſure the Badgers and Tranters did not ſend for him thither.

Country-m. That's very true, Maſter; but though they did not ſend for him, they brought him thither, as Tyranny and Popery brought him to make his Appearance in this Iſland in 1688. The Cauſe of his coming to *Northamptonſhire* at this Time, Maſter, was, that when the People came to buy Corn at Market, the Tranters and Badgers would ſtill be out-bidding them by *6 d.* or 12 *d.* in a Buſhel; ſo that on one and the ſame Day, Wheat has been ſold there for 6, 7, and 8 *s. per* Buſhel; which Captain *Tom* not being able to endure, he vow'd that no Body ſhould rob him of his Bread and Pudding, and ſaid the Butchers are ten times honeſter Fellows, than the Country Farmers; for they let him have Beef and Pork at reaſonable Rates; therefore he ſays he will move for a Bill Bill next Parliament, That the Incapacity of being Jury-men ſhall be taken off from the Butchers, and laid upon the Ingroſſers, Tranters, Badgers, Farmers, and Bakers, becauſe the former only kill Beaſts, but the latter kill Men, Women, and Children by wholeſale; and if the Brewers don't take Care to better both their Liquor and their Meaſure, he ſays he will have a Touch at them too, for all their having the River of *Thames* on their Side.

Obſ. Well, *Roger*, I perceive Capt. *Tom*'s a deſperate Fellow, when his back's up. But what are the *Northamptonſhire* Tranters a doing now? How did they come off? And to what Place have they made their Retreat?

Country-m. Why, Maſter, ſome of the Farmers and they have made a Bargain to retire to *Milton*, a ſmall Village betwixt *Towceſter* and *Northampton*, where they have ſet up a Market, and ſell Corn by Samples in Hugger-mugger.

Obſ. So, ſo, *Roger*, theſe Tranters are brave Fellows indeed; not only to grind the Faces of the Poor, but to invade Authority. This concerns the Queen, all the Market-Towns in *Great Britain*, and is a direct Invaſion of the Legiſlature; therefore, if the *Northamptonſhire* Juſtices don't take the ſame Meaſures to prevent thoſe Practices, that the Juſtices of *Middleſex* and *Weſtminſter* have done, by proſecuting ſuch Criminals, Capt. *Tom* will find the Way to *Milton*, tho' the Roads be deep, and may perhaps act the Part of Judge, Jury, and Executioner; for as I told you before, *Roger*, when his Hand is once in, 'tis hard to keep him to Rules.

Country-m. I hope there will be no Occaſion for Brother *Tom*'s troubling himſelf any farther, Maſter, becauſe, ſince the Government have taken the Matter into their Conſideration, and that the Face of Affairs begins to change, there's more Sellers than Buyers in thoſe Parts now, and every one is threſhing to get firſt to Market; for the Farmers are ſenſible, that there's Corn enough in the Land to keep the Price moderate; and this has cool'd Capt. *Tom*'s Heat a little, for he ſays he will give them his Licenſe to ſell at a living Price, though if he don't hear ſpeedily that Corn falls alſo at *London*, he has a woundy Mind to write to his Relations that live about *Moorfields*, *Spittlefields*, *Soho*, *Wapping*, *Southwark*, *Weſtminſter*, and I do not know how many other Places, Maſter; for *Tom* has a great deal of Kindred, to talk with the Cornfactors, Tranſporters, *&c.* nay, he ſays he will ſummon all the Bears about *Hockley in the Hole*, to make their Appearance under his Standard at *Bear Key* and *Queenhithe*, that he will neither be bribd by Bread and Cheeſe, Veniſon-Paſties, nor Chaldrons of Coals, but that he and they will take a Proceſſion [illegible] down as *Croſs*, and a turn up the [illegible] to [illegible] what's a doing at [illegible] and [illegible] he be not civilly treated, [illegible] Contribution as far as [illegible] to all the Places [illegible] at [illegible], and the [illegible] for he ſays the People of the *North* are much more [illegible] than thoſe of the contrary Part of the Hemiſphere.

C,

Obſ. Enough of that, *Roger*. What elſe does the Gentleman ſay?

Country-m. He thanks you, Maſter, for your good and charitable Diſpoſition in pleading for the poor *Palatines*, and ſays he is almoſt aſham'd to tell you, that in the greateſt and richeſt Pariſh of a Town within leſs than 100 Miles of *Northampton*, where the People pretend to be *all Saints*, and conſiſt of about 500 Families, there was no more collected for the *Palatines*, than 3*l.* 15*s.* and that the Brief was not read 'till the Sunday before the Viſitation, that fell on the Thurſday after, when the Collection was paid in; ſo that the honeſt Church-wardens had not Time to do their Duty, and when they went about it, met with unſufferable Affronts. Some told them the *Palatines* were invited over by a Party of the Houſe of Commons, who ought to provide for them. He alſo very much applauds the Charity of their Aldermen; for of fourteen there were ſix that gave ſomething, but they were much exceeded by the eight Miniſters, not one of whom gave a Farthing, and a Dean in the Neighbourhood, who has ſeveral other Benefices beſides his Deanry, to ſhew, that as God has bleſs'd him above others, he would not be ungrateful, gave no leſs than a whole Shilling.

Obſ. What Account does the Gentleman give you, *Roger*, of the Motives that induc'd thoſe People to that Sort of Behaviour?

Country-m. He ſays, Maſter, he can tell what Colour their Cloths are of, who keep a Club with the Jacobites in Goal there, and promote this dutiful Behaviour towards our Superiors.

Obſ. What are theſe Jacobites, *Roger*, whom the Men of the Cloath take ſo much Care to ſolace in Priſon? Are they any of thoſe that were taken at the Battel of *Hockſtedt*, or of thoſe who were taken in the *Salisbury* Man of War, when the Pretender came over to cut our Throats?

Country-m. The Gentleman ſays nothing of that, Maſter; but if you pleaſe, I will either write to him, or to Capt. *Tom*, to give me fuller Information.

Obſ. Well, *Roger*, what News from *Mons*?

Country-m. Such as you would wiſh, Maſter; there's Mr. *Tonſon*'s Paper publiſh'd by Authority, which tells us, That the Articles of the Surrender were ſign'd the 10th at Night, our Style, that the *French* are allow'd no Cannon or Mortars, Deſerters, or Priſoners, are to carry out their Baggage, and Wounded, at their own Expence; that the *French* in Garriſon are to be conducted to *Maubeuge*, and the *Spaniſh* and *Bavarians* to *Namure*; that they ſhall leave Hoſtages, for Payment of Debts, and the juſt Pretenſions of the Town, and Country of *Hainault*, on the Crown of *Spain*; that the Count *de Bergeick*, the Elector of *Bavaria*'s Miniſter, ſhall pay what he owes, and likewiſe what is due to the Town of *Ghent*, Country of *Waes*, and that Neighbourhood, by M. de *Brouckoven*, in three Months, or ſurrender himſelf at *Ghent* within ten Days after he ſhall be requir'd to do it by the High Allies. That the *French*, for a Week paſt, pretended to ſuccour the Place, which they have no Excuſe for not endeavouring, ſince our Army lay in an open Plain, without any Line to cover them, which is an Acknowledgment to the World, that we lately obtain'd ſomething more ſubſtantial than the Name of a Victory, ſince they dar'd not make a Motion to relieve that Town, tho' they hazarded a Battel to prevent the Siege of it.

Obſ. That's juſt what you and I ſaid before, *Roger*, in Confirmation of our Victory, and is a very good Anſwer to *Dyer*'s Letter of *September* the 6th, which a Gentleman ſent us an exact Account of from *Alnwick*. The Jacobites there, who triumph'd at theſe Words in his Letter: *Here is great rejoicing for the glorious Victory obtain'd over the* French, (*as the Duke of* Marlborough *calls it, and that Bank-Stock was fallen* 2 per Cent. *upon it*, may now ring their Bells backward, as they inſolently told the honeſt Townſmen they ought to do for the Loſs of half our Army. And the Men of the Cloath in *Northamptonſhire* will, no Doubt, open their Purſes liberally, for the beſt Cordials they can get to ſolace the Jacobites in Priſon there, on this Occaſion. They muſt now be convinc'd, to their Sorrow, that the Duke of *Marlborough* had juſt Reaſon to call it a glorious Victory, ſince he has not only beat the *French*, but carry'd off the Prize they fought for. I have many Times ſaid *Roger*, and repeat it again, that the worſt I wiſh thoſe Gentlemen, is, a thorough Converſion to better Principles, and more loyal Practiſes; but if they will act the Part of Vipers, and tear the Bowels that bred them, Juſtice will overtake them ſoon or late; for their old Friends who protect them, on Pretence of Zeal for the Monarchy and the Church, do now find that Diſguiſe to grow ſo Thread-bare, and thin that every Body ſees thro' it; and if they don't be more modeſt, 'tis ten to one but Capt. *Tom* will ſtrip them of it, if no Body elſe prevent him.

Advertiſements.

This Day is publiſh'd,

☞ John Whiting, a Quaker Author at the Blue Ball i [illegible], poſted for a Coward. Price 1d.

Next Tueſday will be publiſh'd,

☞ The Meaſurer and Gauger's Guide to the Theory an Practice of Meaſuring, containing, 1. The Reaſons of th five principal Rules of Arithmetick, demonſtrated by Lines with Examples to each Rule. 2. Meaſuring of Surfac and Solids, ſuch as Plank, Timber, Stone, &c. Joiner Carpenters, Bricklayers, Glaziers, Painters, and Paviers Wor each Propoſition being wrought vulgarly, decimally, practi cally, and inſtrumentally, after a conciſe and plain Metho To which is added, A ſmall Tract of Gauging of Ale, Win or Malt, without Inches or Diviſion, by which any o may gauge ten Backs or Floors of Malt in the ſame Time another ſhall gauge one, by the Way now us'd: altogethe new, and ſubmitted to the Commiſſioners of Exciſe. Sol by B. Bragge in Pater-Noſter-Row. Price 6d.

Juſt publiſh'd,

☞ The Virgin unmask'd, in ten Female Dialogues be twixt an elderly Maiden Lady, and her Niece, on ſeveral di verting Diſcourſes, on Love, Marriage, Memoirs, and Mo rals, &c. of the preſent Times. The ſecond Edition, co rected. Sold by B. Bragge in Pater-Noſter-Row.

☞ The Navy Royal, or a Sea-Cook turn'd Projec containing a few Thoughts about manning our Ships War with the beſt of Sailors, without Violences, and in th moſt pleaſing Manner, according to the fourth Article of late Propoſal, publiſh'd by our worthy Chaplain of her M jeſty's Ship the Lyme. By Barnaby Sluſh, Cook of the ſa Ship. Price ſtitch'd 1s. Sold by B. Bragge in Pater-Noſter-Ro Where may be had, the Wooden World diſſected, by th ſame Author. Price bound 1s.

☞ Mrs. Frances Shaftoe's Narrative, containing an A count of her being in Sir Theophilus Oglethorp's Famil where hearing many treaſonable Things, and among othe that the pretended Prince of Wales was Sir Theophilus's So ſhe was trick'd into France by Sir Theophilus's Daught and barbarouſly us'd, to make her turn Papiſt and Nun, order to prevent a Diſcovery, but at laſt made her Eſc to Swiſſerland, and from thence arriv'd in England in D cember 1706. Price 6d. Sold by B. Bragge in Pater-N ſter-Row.

☞ The Scourge of Venus and Mercury, repreſented a Treatiſe of the Venereal Diſeaſe; together with an A pendix in anſwer to Mr. John Marten's Reflexions there on. By J. Sintelaer, Practitioner in Phyſick, and Author the Royal Decoction. Price of the Appendix alone bou 6d, together 3s. 6d. Sold by J Helms in Weſtminſter-hall, Goſling at the Mitre in Fleet-ſtreet, W. Carter at the Gre Dragon in St. Paul's Church-yard, J. Phillips at the black B in Cornhill, H. Ribotteau at the Crown near Cecil-ſtreet the Strand, B. Picard at the 3 Bibles in the Minories, Harding in St. Martins-lane near Long-acre, J. Morph near Stationers-hall, and by the Author at his Dwellin houſe (late the Duke of Leeds's) in high Holborn, over gainſt little Turn-ſtile.

☞ Juſt publiſh'd, ☜

QUACKERY UNMASK'D, being a rational and effectual Anſwe Mr. Marten's Treatiſe of the Venereal Diſeaſe, its Appendix, publiſhing which, as appears by the Gazette of the 30th of Jul [illegible] and the charitable Surgeon. Sold (Price 1 y D. Brown without Temple-Bar, G. Strahan in Cornhil, J. W ward in St. Chriſtopher's Church-yard. B. Barker in Weſtminſter- Bookſellers; and by the Author, Dr. Spinke, at his Houſe, the G Ball in the dark Paſſage, three Doors beyond the Sun Tavern in Ho Lane Market, Cheapſide. Where alſo may be had, his ANTIV REAL-PILLS, &c (the moſt powerful Medicines for that Diſeaſe known) Price 3s. the Box, with Directions.

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